

ALTERNATIVE PLAN SUBMITTAL SHEET

School Administrative Unit Submitting Alternative Plan:

- M.S.A.D. #49

Contact Information:

Name: Dean Baker
Address: M.S.A.D. #49
8 School Street
Fairfield, ME 04937
Telephone: 207-453-4200 ext. 102
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Date Plan Submitted by SAU: November 30, 2007/Revised Plan
March 17, 2008
Revised: May 5, 2008
June 12, 2008

The intent to submit an alternative plan has been approved by the Commissioner in the approval of the Notice of Intent?

☒ YES

☐ NO

(If NO, please explain.)

Alternative Plan Cover Sheet

(Please attach Alternative Plan as Exhibit A)

Plan Requirements				
Item	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Need Assistance ¹
Plan addresses how the SAU will reorganize administrative functions, duties and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures of RSU in fiscal 2008-2009 for the following areas will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.				
system administration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
special education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
facilities and maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plan addresses how cost savings will be achieved in fiscal 2008-2009 for the above four areas.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parameters for Plan Development				
Enrollment meets requirements (2,500 except where circumstances justify an exception)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
When viewed in conjunction with surrounding proposed units, may not result in one or more municipalities being denied the option to join an RSU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Includes at least one publicly supported high school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consistent with policies set forth in section 1451	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No displacement of teachers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No displacement of students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No closures of schools existing or operating during school year immediately preceding reorganization, except as permitted under section 1512	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collaborative Agreements				
			Yes	No
Does your plan currently include information/documentation on collaborative agreements? <i>(not required, but encouraged)</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on the next page.

MSAD#49

Current District Efficiency/Cost Saving Measures

1. Evaluated class sizes at the elementary level and consolidated and reduced personnel costs as enrollment declines.
2. Used grant resources to fund over 50 district employees.
3. Installed bulk gas/diesel tanks for fueling of buses & district vehicles in order to secure fuel at a lower rate.
4. Have increased hours for benefits or decreased benefits through bargaining contracts.
5. Joined with area school organizations to form Kennebec Alliance which utilizes a bid process as a group. Group bidding is done for paper and office supplies, and Food Service major costs (bread, milk).
6. Kennebec Alliance does joint staff training for support personnel and food service workers to reduce and share the costs.
7. All oil tanks at the district's schools have been upgraded to 6,000-10,000 gallon above ground tanks. This reduces fuel costs (bulk purchase) and eliminates fees and licensing for underground tanks.
8. Eliminated one contracted service position for field upkeep, seeding and maintenance. Duties now done in house with district staff.
9. Secured QZAB funding to implement necessary repairs and reduce future expenses and maintenance costs.
10. Purchased Bus Routing software to utilize the most efficient routes in order to reduce gas & staffing costs.
11. Ongoing management and monitoring of Food Service budget and expenses in order for the program to stay self funded and to not impact General Budget. Currently no funds are budgeted from the General fund for Food Service.
12. Utilizing energy management software that allows remote access to HVAC systems. Allows for setting timers and calendars so that heat, AC, etc are utilized in the most efficient way.
13. Installed Energy efficient lighting at the High School, Junior High and Clinton school gyms. Also installed sensors so lights only stay on if someone is in the room/gym.
14. Completed Energy Efficient lighting project through the H.S. Annex Building.
15. Use of Support Service positions which both drive bus and have custodial or grounds duties. This gives more flexibility and reduces the amount of subs that must be called when someone is out.
16. Implemented an energy conservation measure which included converting electric booster heaters at School Kitchens to gas. Installed variable frequency drive motors to reduce energy consumption. Did a lighting system upgrade to replace incandescent lighting fixtures with florescent lights in all schools and installed LED Exit Lights.
17. Replaced Large water heater with an energy efficient on-demand gas system.
18. Utilized Maine Efficiency Rebates

MSAD#49
Proposed 2008-2009 Efficiencies

System Administration:

Re-structure and re-allocate Assistant Superintendent position	\$ 61,333
Re-allocate ½ Central Office Secretarial Position	\$ 12,311

Transportation:

Reduced 1 bus driver position	\$ 22,511
Further implementation of bus routing software to cut bus route costs	\$ 5,000 <i>Est</i>

High Fuel costs limit our ability to totally reduce this cost center

Special Education:

Reduced 3 Special Education Staff positions	\$ 80,658
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Facilities & Maintenance:

Cut 3 custodial positions	\$105,981
Energy Conservation Plan will be implemented	\$123,000*
Lighting System Improvements Jr/Sr High	
Building Infiltration Reductions	
Pipe Insulation	
Boiler Plant Improvements	
Install more Variable Frequency Drives	
Steam Trap Repair/Replacement	

High Heating Oil costs limit our ability to totally reduce this cost center

*Potential Annual Savings once financing term has been completed

MSAD 49 Financial Summary

Updated Budgeted 2007-2008 amounts to comply with agreement with MEDMS Financial System

<u>Funding Comparison</u>	<u>Budgeted 2007-08</u>	<u>Budgeted 2008-09</u>	<u>Increase/ (Decrease)</u>	<u>Percent Increase/Decrease</u>
Special Education	3,127,809	3,291,171	163,362	5.22%
Operations & Maintenance	3,041,856	3,341,588	299,732	9.85%
District Admin/Support	751,343	674,073	-77,270	-10.28%
Transportation*	1,416,444	1,374,809	-41,635	-2.94%

Comparison of Budget to EPS for 2007-2008

	<u>Budgeted 2007-08</u>	<u>EPS Amount</u>	<u>Over/ (Under) EPS</u>	
Special Education**	2,977,809	2,377,938	599,871	25.23%
Operations & Maintenance	3,041,856	3,004,950	36,906	1.23%
District Admin/Support	751,343	1,057,242	-305,899	-28.93%
Transportation***	1,181,285	930,069	251,216	27.01%

Comparison of Budget to EPS for 2008-2009

	<u>Budgeted 2008-09</u>	<u>EPS Amount</u>	<u>Over/ (Under) EPS</u>	
Special Education**	3,141,171	2,216,912	924,259	41.69%
Operations & Maintenance	3,341,588	2,904,718	436,870	15.04%
District Admin/Support	674,073	595,185	78,888	13.25%
Transportation***	1,221,967	917,292	304,675	33.21%

* Includes bus purchases

** Special Education is budget less \$150,000 for State Agency Client and Medicaid Reimbursement

*** For EPS Comparison bus purchases were not included

All amounts were rounded to the nearest dollar.

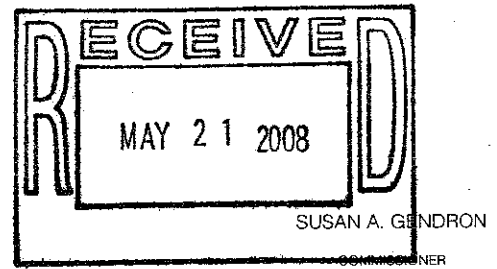
The 2007-2008 Budgeted Amounts for Oper/Maint/Facility have been corrected and replace the original amount stated in the Funding Comparison section of the Alternative Plan Report submitted Nov 30th



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023



May 14, 2008

Dean Baker, Superintendent.
MSAD 49
8 School Street
Fairfield, ME

Dear Superintendent Baker:

Thank you for the revised Alternative Plan that you submitted on behalf of MSAD 49 on May 8, 2008 for Department review for compliance with the school reorganization law, P.L. 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX.

I recognize how much time, effort and thoughtful work is required to complete an alternative plan and appreciate the efforts made, to date, by all those involved.

Members of my staff and I have reviewed the submission and offer the comments and notes listed below to assist you in completing the plan. If you make any substantive change(s) to any part of the plan beyond those listed below, please be sure to note those on the Updated Alternative Plan Cover Sheet Checklist, along with notation of those items that have changed per the notes contained in this response.

General Documentation (Submittal Sheet)

- All information submitted as required.

Checklist/Plan Text Items

Items Checked "Complete"

With respect to the items you checked as "complete", please note the following:

** Required Items*

The 2007-08 budget data provided in your revised plan is not consistent with the data reported in the MEDMS financial system. Please verify these amounts and review the enclosed Financial Summary generated by Department staff using the

amounts provided. If you have questions concerning this requirement, please email Karla Miller or Suzan Beaudoin at karla.miller@maine.gov or suzan.beaudoin@maine.gov for assistance.

Also enclosed are two sample alternative plans that contain the required documentation. I suggest that you review the language in these plans prior to submitting your revisions.

We will review all items on the checklist again, upon your completion of the plan.

SUBMISSION OF REVISIONS:

Please provide the additional materials to complete your plan by June 13, 2008. Please include:

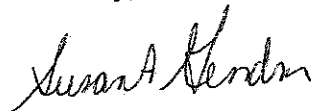
- Any additional data required
- An updated Submittal Page
- An updated Cover Sheet Checklist
- A copy of this Response from the Commissioner.

I will respond no more than 14 days after the revisions/additional materials are refiled with the Department. As you are the contact person identified on the Submittal Sheet, this response is addressed to you but with the understanding that you will share it with your school administrative unit board members.

Finally, what I am reviewing for approval is a plan (or a submission, if the plan is incomplete) which is by its very nature prospective, with steps yet to be taken or finalized; and any review comments or approval given are in relation to the elements required under P.L. 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX but not the legality of all the activities proposed. Thus, I strongly recommend that you have your own legal advisor(s) review the details of any particular transaction proposed in your plan (particularly with respect to the disposition of property, to debt, and to employee contracts/relations) as you proceed, to ensure the legality of the steps you'll be taking to implement the plan. If that review leads to any substantive changes in any parts of your plan, please be sure to submit an amended plan to the Department for our review and our file.

Again, my sincere thanks for your efforts.

Sincerely,



Susan A. Gendron
Commissioner of Education

cc: Charlie Richardson